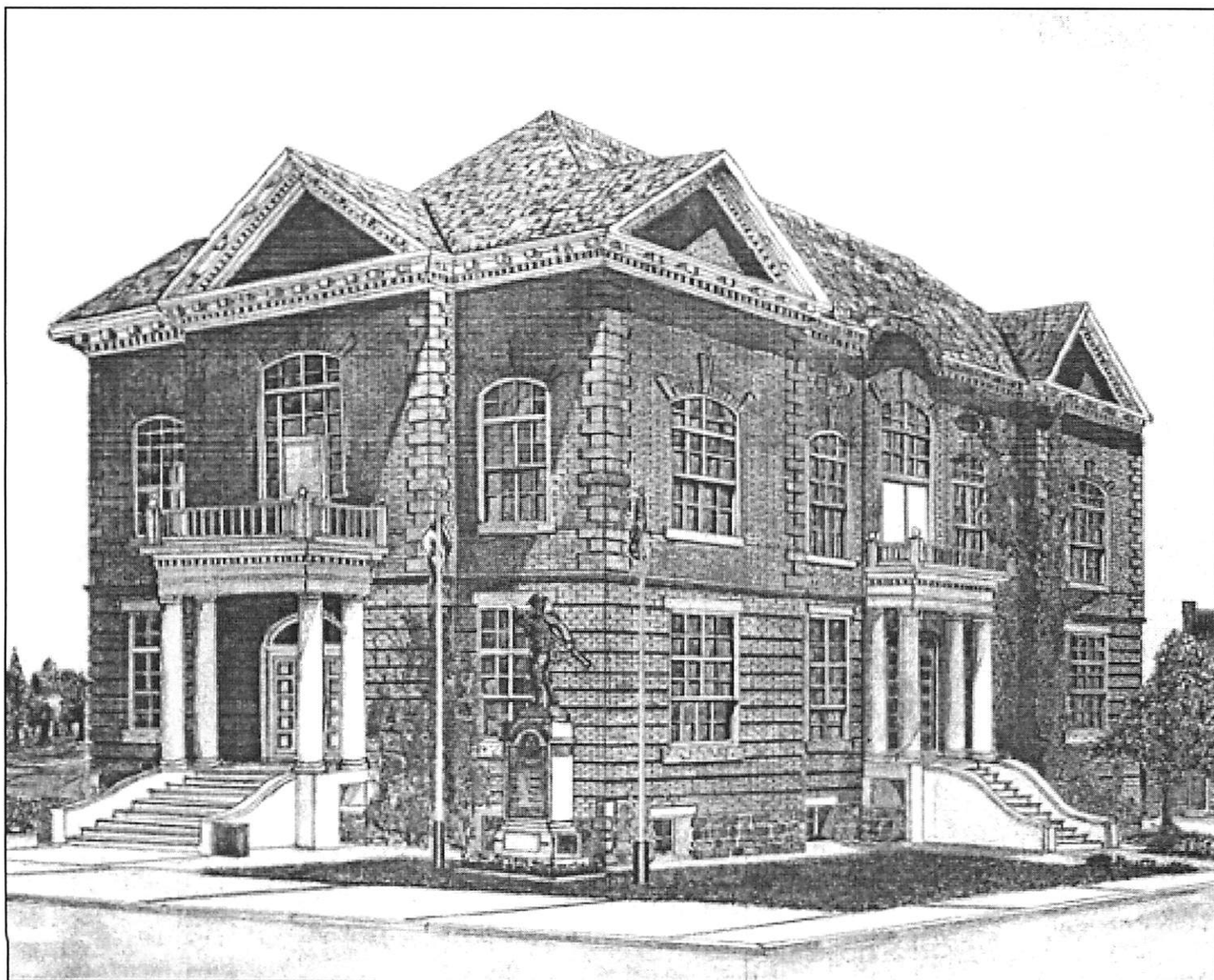


ACORN

The Journal of The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario





ACORN

Spring 2001

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**Incorporated in 1933
to preserve buildings and
structures of
architectural merit and
places of natural beauty
or interest**

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From the Editor

With this issue we begin a series focussing on the preservation of our town halls. In 1983, in *Cornerstones of Order, Courthouses and Town Halls of Ontario, 1784-1914*, Marion Macrae and Anthony Adamson wrote:

As they approach their third century, Ontarians have become increasingly aware that the growth of a true provincial identity is an unfolding process, and that municipal buildings express its stages. New ideas, backed by international acceptance, were introduced by competing architects; local receptivity had to be gauged by the building committees responsible to the concerned communities. In the comparatively short architectural history of Ontario the visual impact has ranged all the way from the sculptural Regency massing of Kingston Town Hall, designed by an Ulsterman, to the unfolding abstract scrolls of the fourth Toronto City hall, designed by a Finn.

The preservation of even outstanding municipal buildings frequently depends on the possibility of recycling them for different but equally honourable use. ... Little township halls and larger town halls are having their faces cleaned, their halls refreshed and their futures assured by enlightened communities determined to conserve a portion of the provincial heritage of good building. In doing so, they commemorate all those who laid the cornerstones of peace, order and good government, the praiseworthy foundations on which the strong framework of this province was built.

It is interesting to note the role that current threats to our town halls, partly a result of municipal restructuring, are playing in the preservation movement in this province. The ACO's two newest branches emerged from citizens' efforts to save endangered town halls: South Bruce

Grey Branch in the case of the Victoria Jubilee Hall in Walkerton, and now Heritage Meaford in the case of the Meaford Town Hall. Janis Marchand tells us Meaford's story in this issue.

See you in Kitchener!

Dan Schneider



President's Message

As we start to ease our way into spring, it is time to talk about renewal. This is what the ACO is all about – the renewal of our built and natural heritage.

With the amalgamation throughout Ontario of several smaller municipalities into larger municipalities, we are going to see many facilities like the Meaford Town Hall looking for a new purpose in life. The new Town of Georgian Highlands has wisely decided to turn the Meaford Town Hall into a cultural centre for the community. It is our hope that other municipalities will look for ways to save these grand old buildings – landmarks in their communities – for future generations to use and enjoy.

Speaking of Meaford, our newest branch was finally able to hold their launch on February 7 (more on this in their report). This time, the weather didn't prevent me from *getting there* – it prevented me from *getting out* as scheduled. However, the extra time there enabled me to get to know some of the branch executive better and, when the snow stopped, to have a short tour around the area. A very friendly, scenic part of the province. I hope my husband and I can return in the summer for a long weekend.

We welcome Mike Forzley, our new Treasurer, who is the newest member of our Executive. Mike has recently completed his C.A. credentials and we are all looking forward to working with him.

Once again, the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation (now Tourism, Culture and Recreation) has provided us with a grant to assist us with our operating expenses. We thank them.

I am looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible at our conference in April. North Waterloo Branch has been working very hard to put together an interesting conference. See you there!

Pat Malicki

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

**Sunday, April 16, 2000
Capitol Theatre, Port Hope**

Mary Angela Tucker, President, called the meeting to order and welcomed some 50 members to the 67th Annual General Meeting of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario. The President asked for the approval of the agenda. It was moved by Peter Smith and seconded by Mary Robinson Ramsay, that the agenda be adopted. CARRIED.

1999 Minutes

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes of the 1999 Annual General Meeting, which were circulated to members in the Spring 1999 issue of ACORN. It was moved by Margaret Rowell and seconded by Katherine McGarry, that the minutes of the 1999 Annual General Meeting be accepted as circulated. CARRIED.

Business Arising

Dan Schneider and Alison Brown, Co-Chairs of the By-law Committee, presented the revised By-laws and highlighted the changes made. Dan and Alison were asked to review the By-laws at the Belleville AGM in 1997. At the 1998 AGM in Toronto, the

ACORN Deadlines 2001
Summer Issue (no branch reports) – June 1
Fall Issue (includes branch reports) – October 1
Contributors – please mark your calendars now!

Committee gave an interim report. After a brief discussion, Margaret Hill moved that the revised By-laws be approved. Seconded by Mary Robinson Ramsay. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Mary Angela Tucker, President, and Mary Glendinning, Secretary, then signed the documents. The President expressed great appreciation on behalf of the ACO for a difficult task well done.

The report on the Policies and Procedures Manual was read by Pat Malicki. A draft copy was made available for all members to review and make suggestions.

Pat also tabled a Review of Branch Territories as part of the work done on the Membership Policy by Rob Hamilton and Pat. Also tabled was an outline of Reimbursement of Expenses for Provincial Executive.

Alan Seymour reported on the HALP Program. He emphasized that it was very important that the requirements for getting information on the Internet be obtained from Leah Wallace, our web master. The website has had 192 visits from Canada, 225 unknown, 3 from the US military, 7 from Saudi Arabia, and 4 from Japan.

President's Report

Mary Angela Tucker thanked Port Hope Branch, and particularly Branch President Sue Stickley and her able committee, for hosting the Conference weekend, including looking after all the organizing of events and locations, and to Phil Carter, Conference Chair, for arranging speakers.

Since April 1999, the Executive and Provincial Council has undertaken a

major reorganization, steered by Margaret Genovese whose firm had completed the Genovese Vanderhoff Report Market Study in 1994. After reviewing the ACO office needs in terms of personnel and equipment, Pat Neal was hired in November as Office Manager. The President expressed appreciation for the work done by Paul Dilse, Consulting Heritage Manager, who left the ACO in September.

Our Grant Committee, chaired by Scott Valens, was successful in acquiring a substantial increase in our Operating Grant for 1999-2000 from the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation. In addition, the ACO has received confirmation for two summer students from the Ministry. The President expressed her appreciation to the MCZCR, and in particular to Daniel O'Brien, Ministry Liaison, for his unfailing assistance to the ACO. She thanked the MacLean Foundation for a generous grant to assist in the purchase of software for the office computer.

The President gave special thanks to the ACO's many volunteers, noting the particular efforts of Dan Schneider, ACORN Editor, and Catherine Seymour, for her dedication to the management of the office on an interim basis and her help to Pat Neal as she got started. In closing, she thanked the members of the Executive for their support throughout her two-year term and extended her best wishes to incoming President Pat Malicki.

Treasurer's Report

Turney Wong presented the Audited Financial Statements and thanked the branch treasurers for getting the information to her on a timely basis. The Bienewski and Richardson Funds have

been paid off and the Camden East property has been sold. It was moved by Edna Hudson and seconded by Brian Dietrich that the Audited Financial Statements for 1999 be approved. CARRIED.

The proposed budget for 2000 was presented. There were no significant differences from 1999. It was moved by Terry Foord and seconded by Edna Hudson that the 2000 budget be approved. CARRIED.

Appointment of Auditors

A.K. Sculthorpe moved that the firm of Lynch Rutherford Tozer be appointed auditors for the coming year and that Council be authorized to fix their remuneration. Margaret Hill seconded the motion. CARRIED.

Advisory Board Report

Phil Carter reported that there were 15 Advisory Board Reports completed in the past year. Some buildings were saved, others not. New documentation will be sent out to the branches to be distributed to interested persons.

Manager's Report

Pat Neal's report was received. Due to prior commitments she could not attend the AGM, but wrote about a new computer system purchased with funds from a film shoot in the office, computerized tax receipts and the fall fundraising campaign which raised almost \$23,000. She also wished a very warm welcome to all volunteers in the office.

Report of the Nominating Committee

A.K. Sculthorpe, Nominating Committee Chair, presented the proposed slate of Officers and Members-at-Large for 2000-2001, as follows:
Past President – Mary Angela Tucker
President – Pat Malicki
Senior Vice-President – Christopher Borgal
2nd Vice President – Mary Glendinning
3rd Vice President – Scott Valens

Treasurer – Kelly Spencer
Secretary – Jane Staunton
Member-at-Large – Mary Ellen Chapple
Member-at-Large – Masha Etkind
Member-at-Large – Robert Fair
Member-at-Large – Evelyn McLean
Member-at-Large – Andre Scheinman
Member-at-Large – Peter John Stokes
Member-at-Large – Turney Wong.

It was moved by Dan Schneider, seconded by Pat Roseborough, that the nominations for Election be closed. CARRIED. Pursuant to the new By-laws the first three members-at-large would stand for a one year term only, to ensure that there would be an even rotation of members. It was moved by Margaret Rowell and seconded by Terry Foord that the proposed slate of officers for 2000-2001 be approved. CARRIED.

President Pat Malicki welcomed the new executive and thanked those completing their term.

Branch Reports

Branch Reports were received from Quinte Region, Port Hope, Cobourg, Toronto Region, Hamilton Region, Cambridge, North Waterloo, London Region, South Bruce Grey and Windsor Region branches.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m. on a motion by Mary Angela Tucker.

Mary Glendinning
Acting Secretary

Office Manager's Report

Thank you for your donation! Current totals for our Fall 2000 Fundraising Campaign indicate we have raised nearly 70% of our \$25,000 goal. Your donation is used to support the efforts of architectural

ACO Council Nominations

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of nominations to Council for consideration by the membership at the Annual General Meeting on April 22, 2001.

President --
Pat Malicki
Senior Vice President --
*Christopher Borgal
2nd Vice President --
Scott Valens
3rd Vice President --
**Nina Chapple
Secretary --
Kathleen Brent
Treasurer --
Mike Forzley
Past President --
Mary Angela Tucker
Members-at-Large --
*Mell Chapple
*Masha Etkind
David Falconer
**Nick Holman
**Julie Ready
Andre Scheinman
Peter John Stokes
*up for re-election
**to be elected

The Nominating Committee consists of Mary Angela Tucker (chair), David Cuming, Marcia Cuthbert and Don Holland.

preservation throughout the province as well as maintain our website, cover postage, insurance, and other administrative costs. Haven't responded to our appeal yet? It's not too late. Donations are accepted via phone, fax, email, or through our website "www.hips.com/ACO". For convenience use your Visa or Mastercard. All donations are tax-deductible.

Many thanks to the volunteers and members of the Provincial Executive, both past and present, who helped me out during my first twelve months as Manager. I would also like to thank

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Hamilton Region Branch Presents ARCHITECTURAL EVENTS AND TOURS 2001

Mansions of the Durand

Sunday, May 6, 2001 1:00 PM
A walking tour through the historic Durand neighbourhood discussing some of the city's most prestigious homes such as Inglewood, Ballinahinch and Ravenscliffe.
Meet in Durand Park at the Corner of Charlton & Park Streets
Suggested Donation \$2.00

The Downtown Core and Gore Park Walk

Sunday, June 10, 2001 1:00PM
Downtown and Gore Park have been Hamilton's focal point throughout its history and therefore provide examples of architecture from all periods of the last 150 years. They include one of the best examples in the country of a sheet metal facade, as well as excellent examples of cast iron and terra cotta detailing. This tour will include landmarks such as the Lister Block, the Dominion Public Building (new courthouse), and Victoria Hall. Meet at the statue of Queen Victoria at the corner of King and James Streets
Suggested Donation \$2.00

The Mountain Brow Walk

Sunday, July 8, 2001 1:00 PM
A walking tour along the escarpment from West 5th Street to the Jolley Cut. From the ruins of the James Street Incline Railway to the magnificent homes such as Auchmar and the homes along Bull's Lane the escarpment has been marked by all ages of Hamilton's history. Meet at the north parking lot of the Hamilton Psychiatric Hospital, 100 West 5th Street
Suggested Donation \$2.00

St. Patrick's Church

Thursday, August 9, 2001 7:00 PM
Join us to discover the magnificent interior and exterior architecture of St Patrick's Church, designed by Joseph Connolly, one of Canada's most prolific church architects in the late nineteenth century. Connolly also designed the Church of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception in Guelph among many others. St. Patrick's served for a time as Hamilton's Cathedral.
Tour Guide: Dr. Jean Rosenfeld,

Architectural Historian
Meet in front of the Church at the Corner of King and Victoria Streets
Suggested Donation \$2.00

City Beautiful Bus Tour, The Rock Gardens and the work of John Lyle

Sunday, August 12, 2001 12:30 PM
Starting at the Rock Garden, this tour explores the major works of the "city beautiful" period in Hamilton such as the Royal Botanical Gardens and Gage Park, as well as the works of nationally renowned architect John Lyle: the High Level bridge, the Gage Park Fountain and Central Presbyterian Church. It offers fascinating insight into the political history of Hamilton in the early part of the twentieth century.
Tour Guide: Ann Milosoroff, MLA, OALA, RBG, Landscape Architect
Space is limited. Tickets are \$10.00 available at RATH Art Supplies, 216 King St. W.

Waterdown Walk

Sunday, September 16, 2001 2:00 PM
A walking tour of the historic heart of the town of Waterdown
Tour Guide: Sylvia Wray
Meet at 315 Dundas Street on the north side of Dundas Street between Mill and Main Streets
Suggested Donation \$2.00.

Lecture: The Architecture of William Palmer Witton

Thursday, September 27, 2001 7:00 PM
An illustrated lecture by Rob Hamilton on the work of this prolific Hamilton Architect that practiced from the early 1890s to 1946. His designs include many school buildings, such as George R. Allan School in Westdale as well as the former maternity building at what is now Henderson Hospital and the James Street Armories.
Art Gallery of Hamilton, Community Gallery, 123 King Street West

Exhibition: The Art Moderne in Hamilton (to be confirmed)

The Art Gallery of Hamilton, Community Gallery, 123 King Street West
September-October 2001

Ronald Huybrechts who responded to my ad last summer for office volunteers. Ronald devoted four months last summer preparing an inventory of the Advisory Board reports dating from 1988-1994. Volunteers with a few spare hours are always welcomed. Contact me to see how your skills can be best put to use. A couple hours every week or two would keep our membership database in top shape or assist our Advisory Board.

Membership in the ACO is up nearly 13% for the year. Welcome to all our new members! You've joined a dedicated group of volunteers working towards the conservation of Ontario's architectural and natural heritage.

We continue to refine our new computerized membership database. You can assist in this process by alerting us to any duplicate mailings or address corrections. Your patience during the transition is appreciated.

The Ontario Heritage Alliance, an association of provincial heritage organizations of which the ACO is a member, met regularly in 2000 to share information and discuss partnering opportunities. Representatives of the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations attended two of our meetings to advise of the placement of the pre-1955 land registry office records. Contact the office for information on the location of land records for your area.

Our Advisory Board program continues to grow in popularity with requests for advice coming in from across the province. New appointments to the Advisory Board will be made at the Annual General Meeting in April. If you're interested in offering your talents to the Board, please contact Advisory Board Chairman Phillip Carter or me. Volunteers to our Advisory Board are asked to prepare a maxi-

mum of two reports annually and receive a small honorarium for their work. Discussions are being held with the Ontario Association of Architects to allow members to earn self-directed continuing education points for work done on behalf of the Advisory Board.

Two job proposals have been submitted to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Recreation (formerly Citizenship, Culture and Recreation) for funding under their summer experience program. The Website Development Assistant would establish the format for posting properties on H.A.L.P., our on-line listing of heritage properties at risk. The Administrative Assistant – Board Development would work with the Executive and Provincial Council in preparing a reference manual for Board members. The positions would be of seven weeks duration during the summer.

The book *York County Mouldings from Historic Interiors 1820 – 1920*, written by ACO member George W. J. Duncan, will soon be ready for publication. Funding partners are still being sought with great incentives to donors. Call me for more information.

Our Nominating Committee, comprised of David Cuming, Marcia Cuthbert, Don Holland and chaired by Past President Mary Angela Tucker, has brought two new members to our Executive in as many months. Welcome to David Falconer, Member-at-Large, and Treasurer Mike Forzley.

The ACO has joined with Community Heritage Ontario, the Ontario Heritage Foundation, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, and the University of Waterloo to consider a study of the loss of heritage buildings in Ontario since passage of the Ontario Heritage Act. Funding for the study is being sought through the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

See you in Kitchener April 20-22, 2001!

Pat Neal

Meaford Town Hall and the Birth of Heritage Meaford

Nestled on the southern shore of Georgian Bay, Meaford and the Townships of St. Vincent and Sydenham (newly amalgamated as the Town of Georgian Highlands) are located in the Georgian Triangle, Ontario's finest four season resort area.

The area was first settled by David Miller, an Irishman who came here with his family shortly after Charles Rankin surveyed the Township of St. Vincent in 1833. In 1845 a village site was surveyed and given the name Meaford, after Meaford Hall, the residence of John Jervis, a British naval officer. The streets of Meaford are named after popular naval heroes of the 19th century.

The town continued to grow and became a bustling port on the Georgian Bay. Over time, the lake freighters and the trains stopped running, but the harbour is now home to recreational boaters and the coast guard search and rescue base, while the railway tracks have been turned into a bicycle and cross country ski trail. The dams that used to supply power to the grist mills have been washed away in long-forgotten floods, but the Bighead River is now one of the best salmon and trout fishing rivers in Ontario.

A prominent reminder of the "Golden Decade" that reflected the prosperity of the times is the Town Hall/Opera House, constructed in 1908, the largest and grandest building in Grey County. This building replaced the original built in 1865, which had been destroyed by fire. The exterior red clay bricks were made locally, while the interior walls were constructed from salvaged bricks from the original building, adding to the structure's historic value.

The Town Hall served many functions. At one time or another, the basement and first floor of this building housed the municipal offices, court room, a police station including three lock-up cells, a large market, assembly room, a library and an elementary school. The second floor houses the 600 seat theatre. The seats were made of molded plywood in cast iron frames and on the bottom of each seat is a wire frame for gentlemen's hats. The hey-day of the theatre was the vaudeville era and with the advent of the cinema, it fell out of use. In the late 1970s it came back to life as home to a succession of summer theatre groups. Most recently, the opera house has been home to the Georgian Theatre Summer Festival.

In 1991 Meaford Council designated the Town Hall as a heritage building under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Over the last several years concerned citizens have been working on a number of different fundraising initiatives with a common goal to eventually restore the Meaford Town Hall as a monument to Meaford's history and as a continuing active forum for the community's cultural life.

An official steering committee was formed in 1999, and on November 18, 2000 Heritage Meaford became an official branch of the ACO, the eleventh such branch in Ontario dedicated to preserving local architecture and cultural heritage.

The Town Hall is the first project chosen by Heritage Meaford. This renovation, restoration, and major planning initiative must be carried out in order to make the building a viable, self-supporting cultural community centre for the visual and performing arts. Several recent reports to council on economic growth strategy see "the restoration of the Meaford Town Hall as being part of the economic turnaround for both the downtown core and the community as a whole."

The timing couldn't be more appropriate as the newly amalgamated commu-



Among those attending the Heritage Meaford launch were, from left to right, Deborah Thompson, Jake Poetker, Tony Houghton, Pat Malicki, Frank Donnelly, Janis Marchand, David Nathan, Kerry Riley and Bill Alguire.

torical building and its reinstatement as the civic and cultural heart of the community.

Janis Marchand

Janis Marchand is President of Heritage Meaford.

nity moves ahead into the future. The Meaford municipal offices and courts will slowly leave the premises over the next year as it was considered too expensive to renovate the structure for administrative purposes.

During the official launch of Heritage Meaford on February 7, we received our first donation of \$15,000 from a prominent citizen and were encouraged by a turn-out of over 75 guests, including our municipal councillors. As a guest speaker at the launch, Councillor Sam Luckhart endorsed the philosophy of Heritage Meaford and its positive impact on the municipality. ACO President Pat Malicki was also in attendance – she shared the successes of other communities and encouraged the audience to help out as volunteers. That evening, we were happy to receive our first memberships and several small donations.

Heritage Meaford has forged a partnership with the Town of Georgian Highlands and the local museum board for application to the Ontario SuperBuild Corporation under the SuperBuild Sports, Culture and Tourism Partnerships (SCTP) initiative. This request, if accepted, could provide the major funding for restoration and functional revitalization of the Town Hall/Opera House.

Heritage Meaford is proud to be the catalyst in the rebirth of this grand his-

Branch Reports

COBOURG

2000 Report on the Cobourg Heritage Fund

The Cobourg Heritage Fund was established by a vote at a general membership meeting of the ACO Cobourg Branch in 1999. The first year of operation of the Heritage Fund was 2000.

The Heritage Fund was designed to encourage owners of heritage properties in Cobourg to make renovations or alterations that would enhance the heritage quality of the building. It was hoped that the fund would not only assist the particular property owner but, over time, would encourage other property owners to enhance their properties. The main criterion of the fund is that the property be either individually designated or in a designated heritage district in Cobourg. The maximum assistance is the lesser of \$1,000 or 20% of the project cost. The membership vote authorized a maximum expenditure of \$5,000 for each of the years 2000, 2001 and 2002.

Notices were placed in the Cobourg Star and Northumberland News inviting applications, and additionally an article about the fund appeared in the Cobourg Star. We received 12 requests for information and applica-

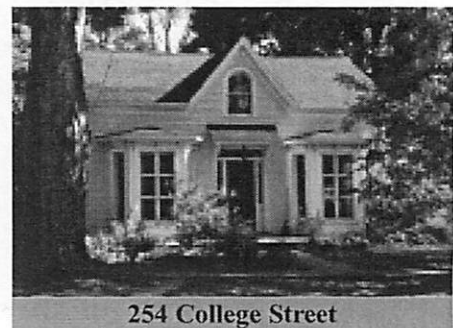
tion forms and five applications were made. After review by the ACO Cobourg board four of the applications were approved and one was deemed ineligible as the property was not designated. Three of the four approved projects were undertaken, and after review of the finished project and documentation of expenditures the board approved disbursement funding of \$1,000 to each project.

The actions of ACO Cobourg Branch in establishing the heritage fund have already had one happy consequence. Councillor (now Mayor) Peter Delanty was able to persuade the Town of Cobourg to set up a heritage loan fund that will provide up to \$15,000 for heritage renovation in the town. Hopefully together the ACO and Town of Cobourg funds will encourage more heritage property owners to undertake restoration projects.

Shown below are the projects that were completed in 2000.

254 College Street

Built circa 1867, 254 College Street is one of the most beautiful wooden-sided buildings in Cobourg. The project was to replace the existing wood siding with new wood of identical profile. The owner was considering the use of vinyl siding, but at the urging of LACAC and the ACO was persuaded to use wood, with spectacularly successful results.

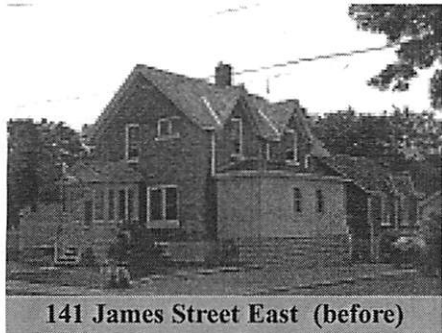


254 College Street

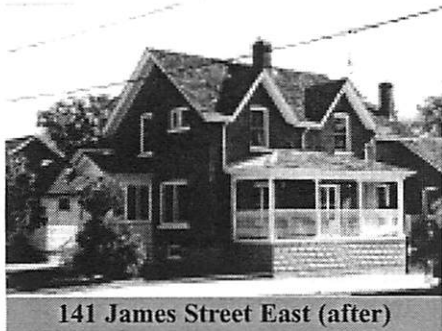
141 James Street East

The owners for this circa 1896 property wished to recreate the porch that had been lost. Extensive research and attention to detail has resulted in a porch that is a great enhancement to the home and to the streetscape. This

project has been recommended by LACAC for consideration for the heritage building award made annually by the Town of Cobourg.



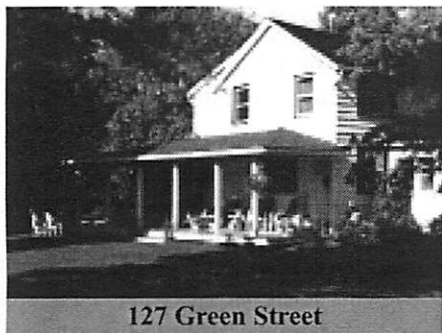
141 James Street East (before)



141 James Street East (after)

127 Green Street

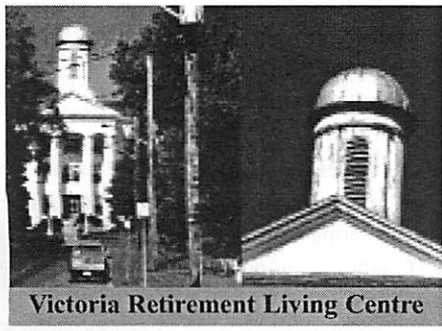
The owners of this home wished to add a verandah in a sympathetic style. The verandah faces south and has garnered much favourable comment from neighbours and visitors to the area near Lake Ontario.



127 Green Street

The project we would like to assist!

The owners of Victoria Retirement Living Centre, previously Victoria



Victoria Retirement Living Centre

College, did a good job in refacing the south front of the college last year.

The ACO Cobourg Branch has expressed concern to the owners about the condition of the cupola, and has offered to approve a \$1,000 grant towards its restoration.

Bill Halewood and Greg Hancock

LONDON REGION

www.web.net/~acolond/publish/index.html

"Heritage Resource Sector"

Over the last year, the various heritage organizations (including ACO) and museums have been working together on an initiative that will ultimately see the Heritage Sector as a more positive and economically viable sector within London and its immediate environs.

This process is particularly rewarding now because, having received City approval, we are at a point where we can take significant steps forward to provide a heritage tourism product and market. The City has approved the establishment of a Heritage and Museum Coordinating Committee and the hiring of a Sector Coordinator. In addition we have a \$200,000 budget from the City for the remainder of 2001, allowing the heritage museums and organizations to help reverse current underfunding issues (such as lack of a registrar for the over 30,000 artifacts at LRAHM, deteriorating exhibits

at Fanshawe Pioneer Village, shortage of volunteers and staff to manage them, to name just a few); as well as an allocation of \$70,000 to aggressively market the sector this year. After this year an additional \$500,000 will be set aside for further marketing and to shore up funding for heritage sites and organizations.

"London's Heritage Sector represents an economic opportunity for the City of London," the report from City Hall states. It is a plan which "will allow the sector to develop a market ready product and through co-operation and partnership, the sector can aggressively and strategically market itself to become a major player in Ontario's culture and heritage-tourism industry." As Chip Martin, our City Hall columnist in his column in the London Free Press on February 5 noted, "London need only look to Kingston, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Amherstburg and elsewhere to see the economic impact history can have."

As co-chair of the Steering Committee, I know we will be working very hard over the next 24 months to prove to the City just how valuable its heritage is.

Friends Of Eldon House

The Friends of Eldon House were finally established in December 2000. This is a tremendous undertaking, and significant in timing as Eldon House not only has its new interpretive centre, but was also used in the filming of the last two episodes of CBC's

28TH ANNUAL GERANIUM WALK "BETWEEN THE WARS"

ACO London Region Branch will be holding its annual house tour on Sunday, June 3, 2001 from 1-5 p.m.

Explore the interesting houses of the Baker Street and Windsor Avenue area (just south of the downtown).

Tour start and finish: Calvary United Church,
290 Ridout St. S.

Tickets \$15 for non-members \$12 for ACO members
available from Walk chair Shirley Gladwell at
sglad2@home.com or (519) 471-8697

"Canada: A People's History."

The Friends will be looking to the Friends of Joseph Schneider Haus in Kitchener for guidance. If you have not seen Eldon House, you are missing a feast. Located at the Forks of the Thames, it is the oldest existing house in London, built in 1834 by the Harris family, with most of its original furnishings and wall coverings intact. It is certainly one of the finest house museums in Canada. If you would like to be a Friend of Eldon House, the membership is \$25 a year. For more information, contact Eldon House directly at (519)661-5169.

Other Events

We held our annual general meeting in November with speaker Ann McColl of Ann McColl's Kitchen Shop. Anne has been a staunch advocate for downtown and spoke to us on "Downtown in the Balance." The exhibit at the Market in October was also successful. We had a small turnout at the opening on October 12, but much praise of the exhibit which featured photographs from past Geranium Walks, images of the wall murals at 301 Piccadilly (on the Geranium Walk this past year), as well as illustrations of other past projects such as lights at the Monsignor Feeney Centre and the belvedere at the McClary house on High Street.

Alison Brown

PORT HOPE

Garden and House Tours

The July 7 garden tour is moving ahead under the chairmanship of Heather MacKinnon. Gardens are arranged, press releases are poised to go out and ticket sales will begin about May 13. A joint mailer will be sent to past garden and house tour patrons from outside our area. This year's

BRANTFORD – CAYUGA ARCHITECTURAL BUS TOUR



ACO London Region Branch will be running a full day bus tour on Sunday, June 17, 2001 to the Sanderson Centre, Brantford, Chiefswood, Six Nations Reserve and Ruthven Park National Historic Site, Cayuga

For more information and ticket prices, please contact Kelley McKeating at (519)672-2496

house tour, chaired once again by Betty-Ann Knutson, takes place on September 29.

ACO members are encouraged to obtain tickets early for both these events as they sell out quickly. More information can be obtained by writing to the Port Hope Branch ACO, Box 563, Port Hope, Ontario L1A 3Z4 or calling (905) 885-7929.

Old Ontario Houses presentation draws crowds

Almost 100 members attended our annual meeting on February 19, Heritage Day, and enjoyed an excellent presentation by Tom Cruickshank and John de Visser on their recently published book, *Old Ontario Houses*. We believe this to be the largest attendance ever at an annual meeting. Members also applauded our strong financial position and the efforts of our heritage fund committee as reported by Terry Foord.

Branch awards exceptional heritage projects

The annual Marion W. Garland Heritage awards were presented at our annual meeting on February 19. Clay and Carol Benson received an award for their dedicated restoration of the Molson Mill, which operated as the Art Gallery of Ontario summer school in the 1930s and 1940s. The residential award went to Larry Green, who has painstakingly restored his family home on Bramley Street South and is halfway through the restoration of a small house (circa 1850) on Ridout Street. We are certain that Marion would approve of both these projects.

New awards for back entrances

Cleaning up the laneways of our downtown is a Street Smarts initiative that our Branch wholeheartedly supports. To encourage building owners to accomplish this goal, two "Building Blocks" awards were made to buildings with rear entrance improvements. These awards went to Susan Dewhurst Rafuse, whose store backs onto Brogden's Lane, and to Leo Hunnako, whose Grainary backs onto Lent's Lane. In addition, the fountain along Lent's Lane (which is currently being used as a planter and incidentally a garbage bin) is being restored by a community committee.

New research idea unveiled

An innovative idea to obtain historical photos for our archives has been initiated by Peter Rungay. Pete is interviewing local families to obtain photos of their families posed in front of local buildings. Family photos were often taken outside; behind the charming people is a wealth of historical information. A display at the East Durham Historical Society Heritage Fair on February 18 provided the Branch with a number of promising leads.

Presentation to Council

A presentation was made to Port Hope and Hope Council on March 13 to seek Council's support for heritage building

With the ACO Annual General Meeting on April 22, 2001

x No. of persons _____ = \$ _____
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property tax and other restoration incentives. The following is taken from the briefing material for the meeting:

"With the support of your L.A.C.A.C. and Ontario-wide heritage groups we will be presenting the following three items for your consideration:

1. Support for amendment to the provincial Assessment Act to create Heritage Tax Classes or sub-classes.

As you will read in the attached correspondence and news articles the new assessment act is expected to be introduced in April and the Heritage Tax Class/Sub Class is being recommended by the senior policy advisor of the Ministry of Finance.

We hope that you will pass a resolution of support for this amendment and forward it to the Hon. Jim Flaherty, Minister of Finance; the Hon. Tim Hudak, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Recreation; the Hon. Chris Hodgson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; and Doug Galt, MPP Northumberland.

Suggested wording of a resolution:

The Municipality of Port Hope and Hope strongly supports the restoration of heritage buildings in the Province of Ontario. Whereas municipalities need tools available to assist private owners to preserve heritage buildings and whereas a heritage tax class or sub-class in the Assessment Act would apply to entire buildings that are designated under the Ontario Heritage Act and would not cost the province anything, therefore be it resolved that the Municipality of Port Hope and Hope inform the Minister of Finance that it recommends that a Heritage Tax Class/Sub-Class amendment be included in the Assessment Act.

2. Continuation of the Street Smarts initiative by appointment of an ad hoc committee to study and report with recommendations on potential incentive for building preservation and restoration.

Last spring Port Hope Council supported the 16 initiatives of the Street Smarts Project for Port Hope Downtown.

The vision statement arrived at by consensus was "To preserve and enhance the cultural and physical assets of the existing downtown core of Port Hope so that it continues to prosper as one of the most distinctive and exceptional towns anywhere."

Target #2 was to ensure the preservation of buildings by developing incentives for building preservation and restoration, i.e. tax incentive policies, grants, etc.

Blake Holton, Vice-President of the ACO Port Hope and downtown building owner, will speak to this initiative, requesting that an ad hoc committee of Council and citizens be appointed to study all possible incentives and report back to Council by September 1, 2001.

3. Promotion of and encouragement for the ACO heritage building fund. Applications are now available for 2001 at the municipal administration office."

Sue Stickley

QUINTE REGION

In the midst of one of the longest and coldest winters I can remember, after what seemed to be a cool, wet summer, our Branch has completed its full schedule of walking tours for 2000, held our Branch Annual General Meeting on Sunday, January 21 and settled on a schedule for 2001 walking tours. There are also a number of different happenings involving heritage properties in the Quinte Region (more than is usually the case!) and we will

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endeavour to keep you posted on their progress over the next several issues. These include the regeneration of downtown Belleville (we hope!), the purchase of several downtown Belleville buildings by successful businesses for use as head offices, the ongoing restoration of the Regent Theatre in Picton by a local foundation, the continuing restoration of the old Trenton Town Hall and the fate of Rodger Greig's historic Scott House in Prince Edward County. Intermingled with this is a new interest in, and a new influx of capital into, "The County" as a result of some success in establishing vineyards in the Waupoos and Hillier areas. Hopefully this will lead to increased restoration activity in Prince Edward.

Our Branch continued its series of monthly walking tours, including two bus tours, one of the delightful town of Perth and the other of Rideau Canal Locks. We continue to support the efforts of the Wilton Women's Institute in their efforts to restore the circa 1873 former Methodist Church in the village of Wilton. At this point, the exterior has been repointed and repainted, the roof re-shingled and work has now started on the restoration of the interior. The project is being carried out under the supervision of one of the ACO Advisory Board members, Andre Scheinman of Kingston.

We have also decided to take on another similar project on behalf of one of our long-time members, Ernie Pattison, in the Coe Hill area. For you Torontonians or western Ontario folks, this area is located about one hour

north of Belleville and south of Bancroft. While it is now considered cottage country for southern Ontario residents, this area was considered the frontier until 1820 and, in fact, wasn't settled until the mid to late 1800s. More importantly, this area was the site of Ontario's first mines and, as such, contains some early Ontario industrial heritage.

Our project will be to aid the restoration of the Ridge Schoolhouse, built in 1889, on much the same basis as in the case of the Wilton Church, i.e., we serve as the sponsoring organization for the member doing the work. Mr.

Pattison's objective is to restore the schoolhouse to its original condition to serve as a community centre and a repository of local records and artifacts. Further information on either of these projects can be obtained from Dan Atkinson at (613)968-7576.

Our branch AGM on January 21 featured Douglas Crawford as guest speaker. Doug has recently published a book on the canning industry in Prince Edward County called *County Cannerys*. It includes many excellent photographs of the old canning plants and tales of the "good old times." At the AGM we elected a new branch executive for 2001 as follows:

Past President -- Dan Atkinson
President -- David Bentley
Vice-President -- Claude Arsenault
Vice-President -- Margaret Hoddinott
Secretary -- Mary Jones
Treasurer -- Olive Root

Dan Atkinson

TORONTO (TRAC)

The branch held two meetings in November. One was in celebration of the first release of our book *The Provincial Asylum in Toronto*. Pleasance Crawford gave a talk on the landscaping of the grounds of the asylum and the new book was available for sale.

The second meeting was an illustrated talk on apartment living in Toronto, given by Alfred Holden. A great deal of research went into the talk, which, illustrated by a series of stunning slides, made for an excellent, thought-provoking presentation.

In January there was a review of our book in the National Post. Half the column inches were devoted to a discussion of Edgar Allen Poe, which we attribute to the shock of the subject matter! We have found strong overall support for the book, and are quite buoyed up with that and other evidence

of interest. Later in March we are putting on a reception to launch the book in an effort to get more press attention and are working with enthusiasm on the details.

The redevelopment of the Concourse Building has been approved by a council that was unmoved by our presentations and letters of support, and listened instead to their staff and the developer. A large redevelopment of the site is in the works, with new low standards for restoration of historic buildings. It is heart-breaking to think of the deliberateness of the desecration and to hear the arguments used by people who should know better.

It is a fact that, in Toronto, designated buildings are bought expressly for redevelopment, and owners feel aggrieved when their plans for private gain are met with public opposition. The value of historic streetscapes has to be buttressed by continual care and attention from those who care about them, those who stand as champions of good preservation and design standards, such as the Architectural Conservancy.

The redevelopment of the Toronto General Hospital site is being planned. The site is bordered by College Street, University Avenue, Gerrard Street and Elizabeth Street. The hospital has two objectives: to modernize the setting for patient care; and to improve its income from assets, in this case the land. Much demolition will change the appearance drastically, and the rebuilt site will include several office towers. The central portion only of the College Street building will be retained, as it is the only building on the city's inventory of heritage buildings. No other assessment of the existing buildings was considered.

The redevelopment of the Parish House adjacent to St. James Cathedral is currently being discussed by the congregation. No formal application has been made for planning permissions yet. However, if the support of the congregation is gained, the Dean

Quinte Walking Tours 2001-2002

2001

January	Annual General Meeting
February	Ron Brown
March	Tom Cruikshank
April	Royal Military College, Kingston
May	Exploring Old Ontario
June	1000 Islands/Sackets Harbour (bus)
July	Deseronto
August	Barryfield
September	Belleville Cemetery
October	Lakeport
November	Peterborough

2002

January	Annual General Meeting
February	Talk on stain glass windows
March	Architecture on Film
April	County Rd #24/ Point Peter
May	Tuftsville
June	Smith Falls (bus)
July	Gore's Landing
August	Carrying Place
September	Elgin
October	Port Milford/South Bay
November	Churches of Brighton

If you would like to lead or assist in any of the walking tours please contact David Bentley at (613)968-7605.

THE PROVINCIAL ASYLUM IN TORONTO

REFLECTIONS ON SOCIAL AND ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

Editor: Edna Hudson

Remembering an architectural gem

**The story from 1850 of an historic Toronto
legacy: the Centre for Addiction and
Mental Health's (CAMH) Queen Street Site**

**Eleven chapters authored by leading social and
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Watercolour painting by William Thomson, 1890. Collection: CAMH Archives

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Friends of the Archives and Museum
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
Room 1020, Administration Building, Queen Street Site
1001 Queen Street West, Toronto
(416) 535-8501, x.2159

and churchwardens will have important prior approval for their plans when they come to council.

This site is very historic. It is a beautiful place of quiet, rest and solace. It provides relief from the bustle of the city for any needing it. There was a bell-ringing festival last fall. It is sad to find that the carillon of bells cannot be heard a block away, due to the tall buildings that already surround the area. The bells were purchased by public subscription, many years ago.

*If ever you have look'd on better
days,
If ever been where bells have knoll'd
to church,
If ever sat at any good man's feast,
If ever from your eyelids wip'd a
tear,
And know what 'tis to pity, and be
pitied...
(from *As You Like It*)*

An apartment building on the lot would provide the inhabitants of that building with the calming delights of overlooking a historic religious precinct, and at the very least participation by observation in the spiritual life that this entails. The outcome may be in the interest of some, but is it desirable for the many?

Edna Hudson

WINDSOR REGION

The past winter has been relatively quiet -- no major crises -- but lots of on-going projects and issues. To bring you all up to date:

St. Peter's Church

We are happy to report that St. Peter's (formerly St. Clare of Assisi and featured on the cover of last spring's ACORN) was designated under the Ontario Heritage Act just before Christmas and has successfully applied for matching funding from the Heritage Challenge Fund.

GET THE PICTURE!

Windsor Region's 3rd Annual Photo Contest Featuring HISTORIC CHURCHES

It's time to take notice of our vanishing architectural masterpieces. In Windsor and across Essex County unique and historic churches are being threatened with demolition that would rob us of our cultural fabric. Give these symbolic structures new life and a better chance for survival by preserving their features with photographs.

Enter the ACO PHOTO CONTEST and take a photograph of your favourite church or any details of these glorious landmarks. Take note of the entranceways, windows, adornments, statues, bell towers and the soaring spires. Capture the magnificence or the simplicity of these architectural treasures.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: 5 p.m. Friday, June 29, 2001.

JUDGING: Entries will be judged by professional photographers and members of the St. Clair Region Society of Architects.

WINNERS: Will be contacted by phone. Award Ceremony and Exhibition to be announced.

PRIZES: To be announced.

RULES: 1. Photos must be of any church exterior or interior in whole or in part which is architecturally significant and located in Windsor and Essex County. Photos must have been taken in the current year. 2. Submit 1-3, colour or black and white prints, with a white 2 inch border mat. Enclose an 8x11 piece of paper and clearly print - church name, address and any brief historical details, your name, address and phone number. Place in an envelope clearly marked "GET THE PICTURE." 3. Entries should be submitted to Harris Marketing Communications, 533 Riverside Drive East, Windsor and must be received by 5 p.m., Friday, June 29, 2001. 4. Contest is open to amateur photographers except those participating in the judging and their immediate families. 5. All photos become the property of the ACO with unlimited reproduction rights.

For further information: Rina Guarascio
(519)981-5158 or Cheryl Worr (519)948-0776

Their Building Fund campaign was formally launched a couple of months ago, with local developers Chuck Mady and Tony Azar as the co-chairs. There is a lot of work to be done and we are confident they will reach their goals. Donations (made out to the St. Peter's Church Building Fund) can be sent to: Msgr. Joseph Salame, St. Peter's Church, 166 Tecumseh Rd. W., Windsor, ON N8X 1E9.

Speaking of churches, rumour has it that a couple of other Roman Catholic churches in Windsor will be changing hands. Thank you to the Diocese of London for working to find new owners for under-used facilities. These buildings are truly works of art and landmarks in our community.

"More than a Wine Auction"

On February 2 we participated in this successful event with the Windsor Endowment for the Arts (WEA). The evening was held at Casino Windsor (the food was fabulous and the staff wonderful to work with), and featured both a Live and Silent Auction of rare wines, dinner packages, a pub crawl, a scotch tasting with a reading by Alistar MacLeod, and just about anything else you could think of. As well, local artists were asked to create an "Artful Bottle" or two - the submissions ranged from the funky to the outrageous. Our thanks to the evening's sponsors - Casino Windsor, Mady Development and Dr. Jeff Berger - as well as all who contributed auction items and volunteered their time. Same time next year?

Dominion Bank Façade

As reported in the last issue of ACORN, reuse proposals are being sought for the façade, which is in storage at the Lou Romano Water Reclamation Facility in

west Windsor. The deadline for submissions is April 20, 2001 and several inquiries have been received.

Annual Photo Contest

At the time of writing, we are in the process of deciding what the subject will be for this year's contest. Judging from the number of entries received last year, this is becoming a popular event. We are getting started earlier this year, so that we can get the information out to the schools before the end of the current school year. For more information, please contact Cheryl Worr at 519-948-0776.

Branch Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held at Heritage Village, Harrow, on April 25; speaker TBA. Members, guests and others interested are all welcome to attend.

Pat Malicki

Collection Illustrates Work of Metal Craftsman Emile Wenger

A collection of photographs, drawings and artifacts of the work of metal craftsman Emile Wenger, a Swiss German who immigrated to Canada in the 1920s, is being considered for the holdings of the City of Toronto Archives. The collection, owned by artisan James McLeod, was found on the premises of Wenger's original laneway workshop and forge, located in an old livery building at Ossington and Bloor Streets.

The materials record one craftsman's work over the entire length

of his career in Toronto. Wenger photographed each piece he created in front of his shop before shipping it out. His photographs became a promotional tool as well as a design resource illustrating the myriad of objects he had produced – lanterns, lamps, firedogs,

fences and gates, hardware and handrails.

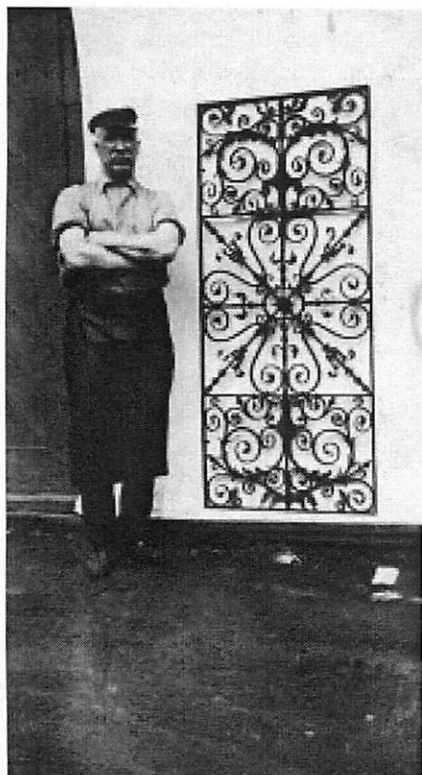
While many of these photographs illustrate work of the highest standard of traditional forged technique, given the era in which Wenger practiced, he was equally skilled at using aluminum and Monel Metal. His pieces were frequently executed in revival styles and not surprisingly, many examples can still be found at residences in Rosedale and Forest Hill, in addition to local churches and commercial buildings.

Wenger's most significant works are perhaps the avant-garde grilles and iron doors he fashioned at an early stage in his career for the Concourse Building (designed by Baldwin and Greene in 1929). Sadly, these works were removed from the building decades ago and their current whereabouts are unknown. That same year, Wenger also worked with the architects on the Claridge Apartments on Avenue Road, creating the entrance doors, lanterns and interior ironwork that are still present in the lobby.

Wenger's workshop was by no means large, but his contact with the city's architects, contractors and builders supply was impressive. His journals attest to commissions from John Lyle, Sproatt & Rolph, Allward & Gouinlock, Baldwin & Greene, Murray Brown, George Moorehouse, Austin Floyd and Dunnington-Grubb, among others. Aikenheads was a major client, and according to his business ledgers he produced an astonishing array of custom ironwork for the venerable hardware store over the years.

The laneway workshop was purchased by James McLeod in 1994, and the records, photographs and artifacts were uncovered during subsequent renovations. Many questions still remain and connections are yet to be made between Wenger's records and buildings in the city.

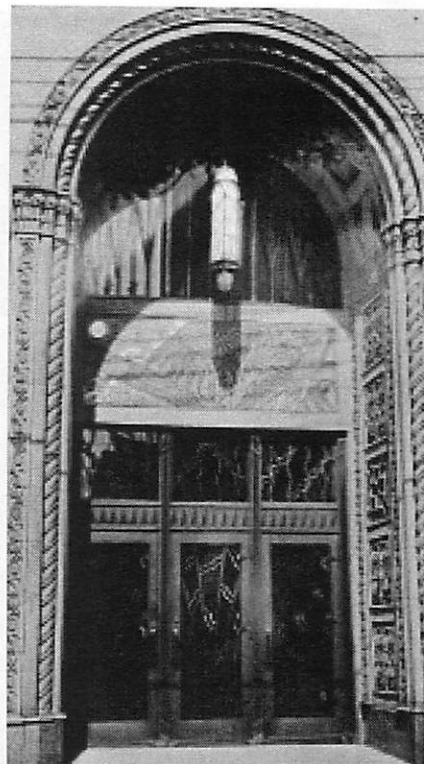
For more information please contact either James McLeod/Ian Panabaker or



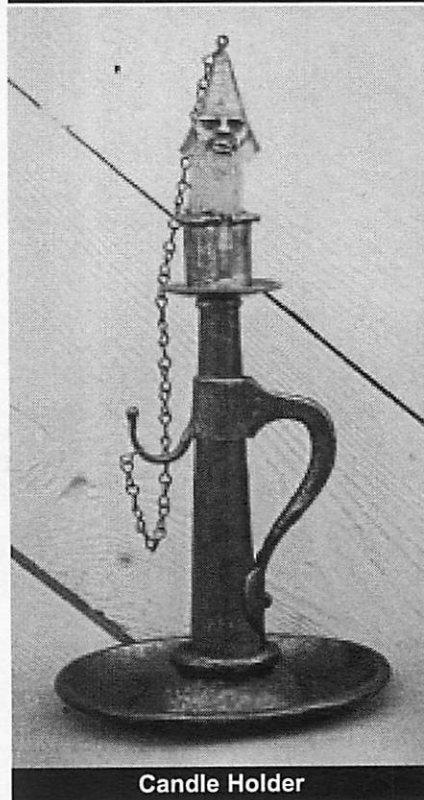
Wenger beside iron grille



Screen detail, Claridge Apartments



Entrance to Concourse Building



Candle Holder

Nancy Byrtus at E.R.A. Architects Inc.
(416)963-4497.

Nancy Byrtus

*all photos courtesy Nancy Byrtus,
E.R.A. Architects*

The Stuff Of Dreams

Old Ontario Houses: Traditions In Local Architecture.

Text by Tom Cruickshank.

Photography by John de Visser.

Published by Firefly Books, September 2000. \$50

What is most striking about *Old Ontario Houses* is the vividness of John de Visser's beautifully reproduced photographs. They possess an extraordinary clarity: a reader can discern the rough and smooth textures of the stone facing the Eakins house in Newburgh, for example, and even the uneven layers of varnish on the floor of the Brown House in Toronto.

Light seems an almost tangible presence. Through the positioning of sunlight and shadow, de Visser's view of Macauley House in Picton gives visual proof of the text's claim that the house "positively shines." The cover illustration, of Seymour House in Madoc, seems virtually three-dimensional because of the sense of depth produced by the shadows of the porch and gables.

Tom Cruickshank's text forms an apt accompaniment to the pictures, providing lively, concise verbal portraits that pique a reader's interest in the buildings while outlining cogent, engaging aspects of their styles and histories.

In a number of these pocket descriptions, Cruickshank emphasizes an idea that is obviously important to him: the possibility of saving "a basket case," such as the Macpherson House, and the rewards of doing so. One of the purposes of the book is to offer inspiration to "a whole new generation of enthusiasts for whom restoring an old Ontario dwelling is the stuff of dreams" by showing "some of our very best vintage houses."

Readers may not find their town's most vaunted treasures included here.

Instead, the book shows a representative cross section of Ontario houses: "quaint farmhouses and fashionable urban addresses from almost every corner of the province, textbook examples of architectural finesse as well as homespun vernacular style, rare houses of the late 18th century, plenty from the 19th and several that demonstrate the new directions of the early 20th." Any reader, experienced heritage devotee or not, will be delighted by the back-road finds in this book. Cruickshank quotes a comment made in 1838 about the expansive, cupola-crowned Fraserfield, near Williamstown: like this early traveler, "We had no idea so grand a building was to be found in the wilds of Glengarry."

While fascinating in its exploration of many different kinds of roads, the book does favour some directions over others: towards rural areas rather than larger towns, and towards pre-confederation rather than late Victorian architecture. Cruickshank's affection for the restraint, subtlety and fine workmanship of the earlier styles permeates his descriptions of "a house rich in Greek Revival detail," such as the Stephen Merrick House. Several descriptions of late Victorian buildings begin with a disclaimer of the "verbal hatchet" that "architectural purists" once aimed at the period's buildings; but, while Cruickshank acknowledges that attitudes have changed, the respect accorded to the exuberant Lawrence House is patronizing, like that for "the debutante who wears too much jewellery to the ball."

It is hard to develop a consistent theme

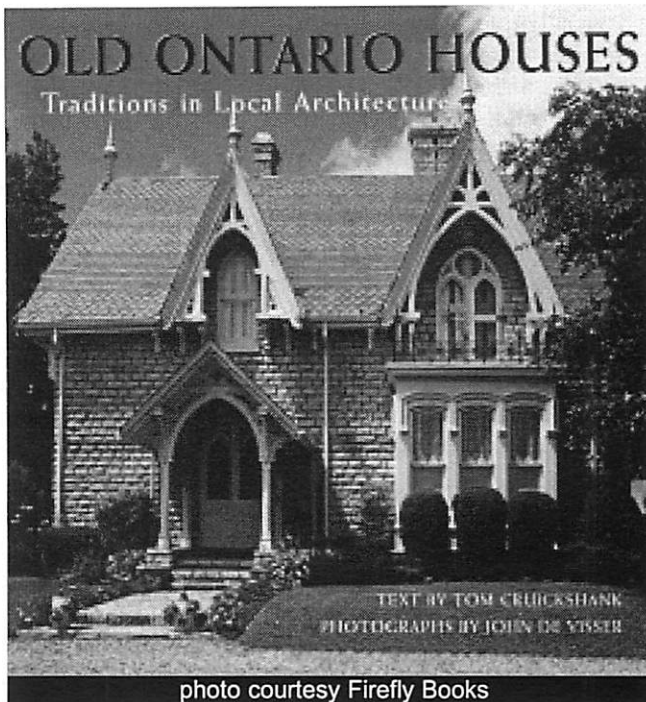


photo courtesy Firefly Books

using the building-by-building format found here, so I was pleasantly surprised at the extent to which the promises of the subtitle, "Traditions in Local Architecture," were fulfilled. The introduction lists distinctive qualities found in the province as a whole: the predominance of brick, the eclecticism and conservatism of Ontario styles, the mixed British and American influence, and, most astutely, our "homegrown signature style," comprising a one-and-one half storey building with a centre door, symmetrically arranged windows, and "a gable peak fitted with a Gothic pointed window."

The most interesting of the building vignettes note more localized traditions. A Welsh family in Picton habitually laid bricks on their side in what is called "rowlock bond," and several houses near Merrickville boast bricks laid in a checkerboard pattern. It is a testimony to Cruickshank's broad familiarity with Ontario buildings that he can identify the bracketed gable of London's Crawford House as "a local architectural anomaly."

Old Ontario Houses is less successful in its attempt to make meaningful differentiations between areas divided by the "informal geographical lines" along which the book is organized. This is

especially true of southwestern Ontario, where different sections on "Dundas Street," the "Lake Erie Shore," and the "Southwestern Breadbasket" blur meaningful difference in settlement patterns, cultural influences, or geographical conditions.

While *Old Ontario Houses* does not aspire to offer a sustained theoretical argument or even the original scholarship that Cruickshank has demonstrated in other publications, it could have been rendered more useful with additional bibliographical information. Many points in the text invite further research. Moreover, a somewhat facile reporting of historical information sometimes skews the facts in a way that threatens to undermine the book's authority. In the introductory section on the Danforth Road, for example, Cruickshank compliments Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe for his shrewdness in hand-picking Toronto as the capital of Upper Canada when, in fact, Simcoe's choice was for London.

Because there are no footnotes and only a sketchy "Selected Bibliography," readers are often unable to verify the sources of information or to pursue further interests inspired by Cruickshank's text.

But demanding factual accountability and scholarly consistency may not be entirely fair to *Old Ontario Houses*. In the final analysis, its importance lies less in the extent to which it expands our understanding of old houses than in the way it inspires our dreams about them, the kinds of dreams that encourage the preservationists of tomorrow by allowing them to be entranced by the idyllic world of yesterday.

Cumulatively, the inviting photographs and the evocative text of *Old Ontario Houses* create such an idyllic world. It is one distanced from the discordant realities of modern life. No telephone lines, factories, garbage cans, or even people interrupt the pristine, picturesque settings in the photographs.

The attractive houses "shine," and the colours are more vibrant and more harmonious than those I see from my study window. The pictures have a latent energy, inviting us to activate them with our own imagining.

Nancy Z. Tausky

Great Heritage Cartoons

Editor's Note: Great Heritage Cartoons will be a regular feature of ACORN. Please submit your favourite cartoon on a heritage or preservation issue. This issue's cartoon, from the London Free Press of April 28, 1991(?), is one of the editor's personal favourites. It reflects the famous controversy surrounding the demolition of the historic Talbot Block in downtown London.

The London Free Press

SATURDAY, April 28, 1991

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donated to the London City Council Historical Fortitude Centre.

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ADDRESS _____

* All discs and street scene depictions FINE!

2000 Campaign Donors

(for the period Feb 23,
2000 - Feb 23, 2001)

We have the honour of acknowledging those who contributed to the success of the 2000 fundraising campaign. We would also like to take the opportunity to thank those who supported our Gala Dinner and Silent Auction in November.

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